# THE BULLETIN

**IULY 23, 2001 ~ 55TH YEAR ~ NUMBER 1** 

# New VP Business Appointed

Change reflects new demands on university

BY JILL RUTHERFORD

APPOINTMENTS TO SENIOR jobs within the president's office are now complete with the creation of new vice-presidential positions, including one for business affairs.



Felix Chee

One year after taking over the presidency, Robert Birgeneau has signalled his own governing style by increasing the number of vice-presidents from four to seven. Two of the new appointments were approved by Governing Council June 28. The move, he explained in an interview, is not so much an expansion as a return to the organization the university had prior to the cost-saving restructuring made necessary by deep government cutbacks.

"With increasing demands being made on the university, it's particularly important in our current era to have a portfolio dedicated to business affairs," Birgeneau stated. These demands include an ambitious construction agenda to meet the anticipated needs of expanded

enrolment, new federal programs with complex funding packages and the sound investment of the university's pension plan.

"In order to best meet the needs of students and faculty, it was clear we would need someone who could properly address these issues."

That someone is Felix Chee, currently executive vice-president and chief investment officer for Manulife Canada. Chee, who was introduced by Birgeneau at Governing Council June 28, will take over as vice-president (business affairs) Oct. 15. In the interim, his duties will be assumed by Sheldon Levy, vice-president (government and institutional relations), who took up his position Jan. 1.

Birgeneau is clearly delighted by the recruitment of Chee to the business portfolio and expressed his pleasure at securing "such a highend person" for the job. "The other thing I like about him is that he says he wants to teach at the business school, at Rotman," said Birgeneau.

"I'm very excited by the opportunity presented to me and by the vision articulated by President Birgeneau," Chee said in his brief address to council. "I look forward to being here."

Beginning with the Development Bank of Singapore, Chee has had a distinguished career in financial management of more than 25 years, serving in various executive positions at Ontario Hydro and the World Bank. He holds graduate degrees from York University and from Imperial College, London.

Meanwhile, former deputyprovost Carolyn Tuohy was named

~ See NEW: Page 6 ~

# Mixed Reaction to Games' Decision

BY JOAN GRIFFIN

POR THE PEOPLE OF TORONTO, the International Olympic Committee's decision in favour of Beijing was both a disappointment and a blessing — depending on whether or not they supported their city's bid to host the 2008 Olympic Games. And here at U of T, the reaction was much the same.

For Professor Bruce Kidd, dean of the Faculty of Physical Education and Health and an active Toronto bid supporter, the decision was an "emotional disappointment" but it also addressed the IOC's long-standing oversight of the world's most populous country. "China has been in the collective IOC mind for some time," he said. "It was more a question of when rather than if the Olympics would go to China ... I respect the decision. I wish them the best for 2008. I don't believe we will be disappointed."

According to Kidd, Beijing had a

~ See MIXED: Page 6 ~

# A LIFE REMEMBERED

Jack Sword praised for his dedication to public service



Jack Sword flanked by daughter Linda and wife Constance at Linda's 1971 convocation from U of T.

BY JILL RUTHERFORD

JOHN (JACK) SWORD, A MAN who exemplified unselfish willingness to serve his university, died July 4. He was 86.

Born in Saskatchewan and raised in Winnipeg, Sword received his BA from the University of Manitoba in 1935 followed by an MA from U of T in 1950. He began his career in education as a teacher in Manitoba schools before becoming a Royal Canadian Air Force aircrew instructor during the Second World War.

But it was at U of T that Sword's consummate skills as an administrator came to the fore. He rose from assistant secretary of the School of Graduate Studies (1947-1948) to acting president (1967-1968) and vice-president (academic) and provost (1968-1971). He was appointed acting president again in 1971-1972 during which time he helped lay the groundwork for Canada's only unicameral university governing structure. Sword played other pivotal roles in the university administration, including vice-president (institutional

relations and planning) and special assistant to the president from 1974 to 1980 when he officially retired.

"Jack is the last of the generation of senior people who built the university in the years after the Second World War," commented Jack Dimond, former secretary for Governing Council, now retired. "I don't think people now appreciate how much of an achievement that was."

The university, he explained, was a "much smaller, more homoge-

~ See A LIFE: Page 4 ~

# Parliamentary Report Calls for Increased Research Funding

BY ALTHEA BLACKBURN-EVANS

A RECENTLY RELEASED PARliamentary report wants the full costs of university research covered. And while that's good news for U of T researchers, the report also charged that this university is getting too much of the funding pie.

The House of Commons' Standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology argues that greater support for university research is crucial to strengthening Canada's international competitive advantage. Entitled A Canadian Innovation Agenda for the Twenty-first Century, the report's 18 recommendations included heightening support for university/industry

R & D activities and funding the indirect costs of research. "In a knowledge-based economy," the report says, "a country's wealth and economic success is found in the minds and creativity of its people."

"This could be great news for researchers across the country and at U of T," said Professor Heather Munroe-Blum, vice-president (research and international relations). "Funding the full costs of university research would allow faculty and the university the support needed to engage in really exciting research projects without jeopardizing teaching budgets or cutting costs in other important areas."

Many issues raised in the document echoed Munroe-Blum's own 1999 report to the province entitled Growing Ontario's Innovation System: The Strategic Role of University Research. "This is more evidence that parliament recognizes the importance of fully supporting Canada's researchers as they help Canada become an international knowledge leader."

The good news, however, didn't come without a shot at U of T. The report expressed concern that larger universities like U of T are getting too great a share of federal research funding, particularly though programs like the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and the Canada Research Chairs (CRC).

It suggested that these newer competitions leave smaller universities — especially those in Atlantic

~ See REPORT: Page 6 ~

ERT LANSDALE

### IN BRIEF



# U of T Press shippers and receivers set to strike

SOME 25 FULL-TIME U OF T PRESS EMPLOYEES WORKING IN THE shipping and receiving department are prepared to go on strike Wednesday at midnight if management and CUPE Local 3261, the union representing the employees, fail to reach an agreement. About 30 protesters demonstrated outside Simcoe Hall last Thursday to voice their anger at management and to rally union member support. Key issues include wages, seniority of the union president and grievance procedures. Employees are currently paid a minimum of \$14 an hour and the union is seeking an increase of 10 to 15 per cent over two years. George Meadows, president of U of T Press, is prepared to offer two per cent over two years to keep in line with the other three unions at the Press. He said in an interview that shippers and receivers at Chapters and Indigo are paid \$9 an hour so the Press rates are very competitive. Both sides will meet Tuesday to try to reach an agreement.

### Ward reappointed ombudsperson

MARY WARD HAS BEEN REAPPOINTED AS UNIVERSITY OMBUDSPERSON for a five-year term from July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2006. Ombudsperson since 1998, Ward has served with distinction, wrote Wendy Cecil-Cockwell, chair of Governing Council, in announcing the reappointment. Before her appointment as ombudsperson, Ward was director of development in the Faculty of Medicine and also served as a community board member of the National Parole Board. A review of the office was also carried out by a committee of Governing Council. At its May meeting, council approved committee recommendations which included restoring the position to full time in order to increase the availability of the ombudsperson's services to the Mississauga and Scarborough campuses.

# Abramovitch acting principal of Woodsworth College

PROFESSOR RONA ABRAMOVITCH, DIRECTOR OF THE TRANSITIONAL Year Program, has been appointed acting principal of Woodsworth College effective July 1 until Dec. 31 or earlier should a successor to Professor Angela Hildyard begin before the end of the year. Hildyard left her post as principal to become vice-president (human resources). Abramovitch is well known and respected in the university community for her service as the university's status of women officer from 1994 to 1999, as the current director of TYP and more recently as the provost's adviser on proactive recruitment, Provost Adel Sedra wrote in a memo announcing the appointment. "Her knowledge of the university and record of commitment to mature and part-time students will be valuable assets to Woodsworth College during the next six months."

### AWARDS & HONOURS



#### Faculty of Medicine

PROFESSORS DINA BROOKS OF PHYSICAL THERAPY and Lillian Siu are the winners of the 2001 Elsie Winifred Crann Memorial Trust Awards in medical research. The awards, established by the U of T life sciences committee, were created to encourage young investigators to pursue research related to breast cancer or pulmonary, kidney and urinary diseases. The \$35,000 award is to be used for the direct costs of a research project.

PROFESSOR AVRUM GOTLIEB OF LABORATORY MEDICINE and pathobiology assumed the presidency of the American Society for Investigative Pathology July 1, the first Canadian to lead the 1,800 member society. A full member of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, the society is committed to fostering and recognizing excellence in research through its meetings, publications and awards.

PROFESSOR CHERYL GRADY OF PSYCHIATRY AND A neuroscientist with the Rotman Research Institute at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care received the prestigious Justine and Yves Sergent Award at a ceremony in Montreal May 28. The annual award honours a young female researcher who has developed an international reputation in the field of cognitive neuroscience, particularly in connection with research on cognitive neuropsychology and functional brain imaging.

PROFESSOR LEA HARRINGTON OF MEDICAL BIOPHYSICS has been awarded the National Cancer Institute of Canada Terry Fox Young Investigator Award, given to a promising young investigator doing outstanding basic laboratory work. Harrington is a leader in the study of the chromosomal structure known as a telomere; telomeres play a role in how cells duplicate and age and may also have a key role in cancer cell and tumour development.

PROFESSOR PETER ST. GEORGE-HYSLOP OF THE department of medicine has been named the winner of the 2001 Dales Award in medical research, created by the U of T life sciences committee to encourage investigators of outstanding calibre to pursue research in the area of general medicine. The \$50,000 award will support St. George-Hyslop's research projects on neurodegerative disorders.

PROFESSOR STEPHEN SCHERER OF MEDICAL GENETICS and microbiology received an honorary doctor of science degree from the University of Windsor at convocation ceremonies June 9. The degree was awarded in recognition of his contributions to mapping, sequencing and gene identification studies as part of the international Human Genome Project.

UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR LAP-CHEE TSUI OF MEDICAL genetics and microbiology received an honorary doctor of science degree from York University at convocation ceremonies June 13. Tsui was honoured for his significant contributions to the improvement of people's lives through the genetic study of cystic fibrosis and his work as president of the Human Genome Organization.

#### Faculty of Music

PROFESSOR TIMOTHY MCGEE OF THE FACULTY OF Music has been named the winner of the 2001 Howard Mayer Brown Award for lifetime achievement in early music, established by Early Music America in recognition of outstanding achievements in scholarship, teaching and performing early music. McGee's areas of research are the performance of music before 1800 and the music of Canada.

#### OISE/UT

PROFESSOR GLEN JONES OF THEORY AND POLICY studies was selected as the winner of the 2001 Research Award of the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education. Presented at the society's annual conference May 23-26 at Laval University in Ste. Foy, Quebec, the award recognizes significant scholarly excellence in the field of higher education in Canada.

# Research & International Relations

THE OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IS THIS YEAR'S co-recipient of the Friesen-Rygiel Prize along with Mount Sinai Hospital's Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute and GLYCODesign Inc., a U of T spin-off company. Created by the Canadian Medical Discoveries Fund in 1997, the prize is awarded annually to a company in the field of human health that advances an outstanding discovery generated in a Canadian academic institution through the creation of a commercial enterprise.

## ON THE INTERNET

#### **FEATURED SITE**

#### Sonnet showdown



AHH, THE IAMBIC PENTAMETER (does this term ring a bell?). For those who have an insatiable appetite for the lovelorn and lyrical, Sonnet Central is a Web site that offers a plethora of poems. The content is arranged by time period and alpha order. There's

also a Canadian section that includes links to sonnets listed on Representative Poetry On-line edited by U of T English professor Ian Lancashire. For those yearning to express themselves online, you can submit and view compositions. Another interactive feature includes a "sonnet showdown" where site visitors can view, compare, critique and vote for favourite poems. The site is updated weekly.

http://www.sonnets.org/

# U OF T HOME PAGE www.utoronto.ca

THE CAMPAIGN FOR U OF T www.uoftcampaign.com

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www.rir.utoronto.ca

PHD ORALS
www.sgs.utoronto.ca/phd\_orals.htm

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If you want your site featured in this space, please contact Audrey Fong, news services officer, at: audrey.fong@utoronto.ca

#### SITES OF INTEREST

#### Virtual fruits of labour

THE MUSEUM STUDIES PROGRAM OFFERS A UNIQUE MULTIMEDIA-based course, the virtual museum, that allows students to gain valuable computer application skills. Students learn HTML coding (hyper text mark up language), prepare conceptual and Web site navigational storyboards and research and scan images in order to mount "virtual" exhibits on the Internet. During the 2001 winter term, students launched the project site, Reproductive Technology and Women's History, that explores the relationship of medical technology to reproduction and birth in modern Western culture. The site is very comprehensive, informative, easy to navigate and well illustrated.

http://www.utoronto.ca/museum/virtual/vm/

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BY SUE TOYE

THE NEXT TIME YOU REACH for your non-stick frying pan to scramble some eggs, you may want to think again. Researchers at the University of Toronto, Environment Canada and University of Guelph have discovered that using products containing Teflon and other fluorinated polymers releases a cocktail of chemicals into the environment.

In a study published in the July 19 issue of *Nature*, researchers found that fluorinated polymers degrade when heated. They produce, among other chemicals, trifluoroacetic acid (TFA), a persistent compound whose long-term effects on the environment are unknown, trace amounts of ozone-destroying chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and longer-chain perfluorocarboxylates which accumulate in animal tissues.

The use of CFCs — widely used in refrigeration systems, aerosols,

styrofoam and other products in the 1960s and 1970s — has been replaced by hydrochlorofluorocarbon and hydrofluorocarbon gases. Unlike CFCs, these gases break down in the atmosphere and return to Earth in the form of rainwater. However, the rainwater can contain TFA, an acidic byproduct that takes many decades to degrade.

"By measuring TFA levels in rainwater over the last three to four years, researchers estimated there should be 100 to 120 parts per trillion in the water by the year 2020," said David Ellis, lead author of the study and PhD graduate, now working in U of T's chemistry department. "We unexpectedly discovered the TFA levels have far exceeded that amount and we wanted to know why."

The researchers hypothesized that fluorinated polymers like Teflon were to blame. They heated various products containing fluoropolymers at various temperatures and found they emitted up to 10

per cent of TFA. They also discovered the average annual global production of fluorinated polymers was 40,000 tonnes in 1988, a figure that had increased by more than 200 per cent in 1997.

While research has not uncovered harmful effects of TFA on people, there is cause for concern, said Professor Scott Mabury of chemistry, who supervised the study. "High concentrations of TFA in water can be mildly phytotoxic [toxic to plants] but, more importantly, it will take decades for TFA to degrade. We don't know what the long-term environmental impacts are."

The scientists also found that fluoropolymer material releases small amounts of CFCs into the atmosphere which can contribute to ozone depletion.

This study was funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada; the equipment used in experiments was donated by Perkin Elmer Canada.

#### CURIOSITIES

THEN (CIRCA 1920) WITH FORMER RESIDENCES



AND NOW, A SUNNY PERCH



# ONE (REPAIRED) BRICK AT A TIME

By MICHAH RYNOR

N 1853 BRITISH NAVAL OFFICER (AND TORONTO ENTREPRENEUR) John Elmsley donated four lots of his Clover Hill estate to the priests of the congregation of St. Basil so they could build a college and church. Soon a school building and a majestic house of worship were constructed and later an imposing six-foot-high brick wall along St. Mary's Street.

The wall, considered by historians and architects as one of the most striking in the city, remains — with a bit of help. On more than one occasion over the past few months it has been attacked by vandals who smashed parts of the pillars that hold the wall together. Now carefully restored, this great partition remains, protecting — and protected by — St. Michael's College.

# **Debentures to Finance Building Construction**

BY JANE STIRLING

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO has raised the bar again, setting a Canadian market precedent. Earlier this month, it announced its intention to issue \$160 million in long-term debentures, becoming the first university in the country to raise a sum this size in broad-based capital markets financing.

A significant proportion of the funds will be used to finance new residences that will help accommodate the double cohort of high school students arriving at Ontario universities in 2003 with the elimination of Grade 13.

"The university promises a space in residence to all first-year students who request it, and with this expansion — facilitated by these debentures — we can continue to keep that promise," said Provost Adel Sedra. "The anticipated enrolment growth, coupled with the present demand for student housing, make increased residence spaces desperately needed."

The debentures, issued by private placement, will provide financing in support of the university's ambitious capital construction plan of over \$600 million. In addition to residence construction, other planned uses for the \$160 million include parking facilities and, together with other public and private sources, some academic facilities.

"The U of T issue is unique because it's the first widely distributed offering by a Canadian university on the strength of its own credit," said Cliff Inskip, managing director of debt capital markets at CIBC World Markets. "The offering met with a very favourable reception from investors; in fact, it sold out instantly. It sets a market precedent and probably opens the door for other Canadian universities to tap into capital markets too."

Earlier this year U of T received top marks from two credit rating agencies — Moody's Canada Inc. and Standard and Poor's. Moody's gave U of T a credit rating of Aa2 while S & P rated it AA+. The ratings set a new course for borrowing for capital projects at U of T, said Sheila Brown, acting chief financial

"The significant help we are receiving for the construction of academic buildings from the government of Ontario's SuperBuild Fund, along with federal and provincial government research infrastructure grants and private donations, means that the university's internal resources are being directed to support borrowing pecific high-pri facilities," Brown said. "With the current financing requirement of close to \$160 million, a debenture offering is a cheaper and more efficient borrowing method

— the university can borrow the funds all at once at a better rate. By keeping our borrowing costs as low as possible, we can make the effort to pass the savings along to our students in our residence rates."

The university's longer term goal is to house 25 per cent of its students. The residences, supported by the \$160 million, will increase the percentage of students in residence from 14 per cent to around 17 per cent of current enrolment.

# Chilean Telescope Project a Go

BY JANET WONG

CANADIAN RESEARCH INTO THE cosmos will be taking a big leap forward with U of T's commitment of several million dollars to the Magellan twin telescopes project in Chile.

The Magellan telescopes project is a \$74 million U.S. collaboration between the observatories of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the universities of Michigan and Arizona. U of T, the only Canadian university to take part in this venture, will provide up to \$2.5 million US (\$3.87 million Cdn) to the group to help build a multi-object spectrograph and a wide-field infrared mosaic camera for the telescopes. In return, U of T researchers will be guaranteed 33 nights of viewing a year for five years on the 6.5 metre telescopes.

"It's a phenomenal development," said Professor Ray Carlberg of astronomy and astrophysics and U of T's principal investigator on the project. "First the telescopes are in the south so you see a different part of the sky. The second thing is you can see fainter objects with bigger telescopes, so distant galaxies are a big target with this telescope. And thirdly it has a very unusual spectrograph on it which will have the widest field of view by far," Carlberg noted, meaning that the telescope will be able to take a snapshot of about a thousand galaxies at once.

"It was only a few years ago that people were doing it one at a time. A thousand at a time means you can do things a thousand times faster, meaning you can do huge samples."

Carlberg was recently awarded \$1.3 million from Ontario Innovation Trust to cover a portion of the Magellan commitment. He is currently applying to the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) for the remainder of the funds (\$2.57 million). In the event the CFI application is not successful, the \$2.57 million would be funded with \$0.5 million from the Faculty of Arts and Science and \$2.07 million from the University Infrastructure

Investment Fund.

At its June 28 meeting, Governing Council approved the expenditure of up to \$2.07 million with the understanding that the funds would be returned if the CFI application is successful.

The Magellan telescopes are located at a "superb site" at Las Campanas Observatory, about 400 kilometres north of Santiago, said Carlberg. Two main projects will go ahead at this point. One involves Carlberg's research that looks at how galaxies are built.

Existing equipment limited the ability of scientists to study the period of time when galaxies first began forming, he said. But with the new and more powerful spectrograph, researchers' glimpse into this murky time will be that much brighter. The work is a joint project between Carnegie, which is doing much of the observational work, and Carlberg, who is focusing more on the theoretical end.

Another project involves U of T professor Howard Yee who is looking at very distant clusters of galaxies.

#### Corrections

IN THE JUNE 25 EDITION OF *THE BULLETIN*, THE AUTHOR OF THE Commentary *In Praise of Prozac* was Dr. Paul Links, not Peter Links as listed. *The Bulletin* regrets the error.

In the same edition, the correct Web address for the new U of T 175th anniversary logo is dur.utoronto.ca/logos.

University of Toronto Bulletin — 3 — Monday, July 23, 2001

NIVERSITY OF ST MICHAEL'S COLLEGE ARCHIVES

TIKE ANDRECHUK

# More Royal Society of Canada Honours

TEN OF U OF T'S TOP SCHOLARS and scientists are among the 60 newly elected fellows of the Royal Society of Canada, an honour indicating a strong mark of respect, support and recognition of excellence from their peers.

Named to the Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences were Professors Sylvia Bashevkin of political science, one of Canada's leading scholars in the area of women and politics; Cheryl Misak of philosophy, who has established an international reputation as one of the world's leading interpreters and defenders of the pragmatist tradition; Keith Oatley of the Centre for Applied Cognitive Science at OISE/UT, who has made substantial advances in the psychology of stress, the psychology of emotions and readers' responses to fiction; and Jeffrey Reitz of sociology and the Centre |

for Industrial Relations, an internationally recognized expert on immigration, ethnicity and race

Joining the Academy of Sciences are Professors Charles Deber of biochemistry and the Hospital for Sick Children, who advanced the application of chemical and biophysical techniques to molecular medicine, increasing our understanding of the structural implications underlying diseases involving membrane proteins; Mark Lautens of chemistry, whose research is at the cutting edge of organic synthesis; Ian Manners of chemistry, one of Canada's most eminent chemists whose research on inorganic polymers has achieved broad international acclaim; Roderick McInnes of medical genetics and microbiology and the Hospital for Sick Children, an internationally recognized human geneticist and world

leader in the fields of eye development and inherited eye disease; Nancy Reid of statistics, who has made fundamental contributions to the mathematical theory of statistics; and André Salama of electrical and computer engineering, who has made outstanding and seminal contributions in the area of semiconductor device research as well as in analog and digital integrated circuit design for applications in communications and computer systems.

Established in 1882, the Royal Society of Canada has been regarded as a force for the enrichment, interpretation and strengthening of Canada's intellectual heritage. Its mandate is the promotion and development of learning and research in the arts and sciences through the work of its academies. The induction ceremony for the new fellows will take place Nov. 16

### A Life Remembered

~ Continued From Page 1 ~ neous place" in the 1930s and 1940s. But with the swell of returning veterans, a transformation took place that saw a significant expansion of U of T. "The achievement of Jack, [former president] Claude Bissell and others was truly an act of foresight; the university has been better off for it," Dimond said.

One person who benefited from that vision was Robert Blackburn. Now 82, he was the university's chief librarian for 30 years during which time the library holdings vastly increased. But Blackburn lost more than a respected colleague with the passing of Jack Sword; he also lost one of his oldest friends, having first met Sword when the two were training with the RCAF in Portage la Prairie.

"Everybody that I knew respected his ability and his judgment," he recalled.

That judgment was put to the test one convocation when Sword was acting president. It was during the days of student unrest and one graduand, upon receiving his degree, tore it to shreds and

declared it "a useless piece of paper." Sword took it in stride, Blackburn said. He invited the young man to the microphone and gave him "two minutes" to say what he had to say. "The lad was speechless," Blackburn said, laughing. "And walked away. That sort of quick judgment and flexibility was typical of Jack."

Dedicated, steady, well informed and humble. These are the words Blackburn uses to describe his friend. "He was a great one to be up-to-date in politics. He was a very aware person, very curious and very, very retentive of information and of names. He had great grasp and ability."

Although Sword had confidence in himself he was "never guided by pride." Indeed, Blackburn believes Sword's humility and dedication to public service were in part the result of his early participation in the Student Christian Movement in Manitoba and his lifelong involvement with the United Church of Canada. "His life was formed and informed by his Christian beliefs."

Even in retirement, Sword continued to give to his community and to U of T in particular. Among his many contributions to campus life, he was chair of the U of T Press board, a member of the board of stewards of Hart House, chair of the finance committee and director of the University of Toronto Oral History Project from 1981 to 1990. This year he was named an honorary director of the U of T Alumni

His appreciation for history was seen in his other volunteer commitments, most notably as a trustee of the Wychwood Park Designated Heritage District where he made his home with his wife, Constance, and their children Stephen and

Sword's many contributions to education and his community were recognized when he was awarded a Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal in 1977 and honorary degrees from his two alma maters - Manitoba (1970) and Toronto (1988).

A public memorial service is planned for Sept. 29 at 2 p.m. at Bloor Street United Church.

### IN THE NEWS



U of T people are in the news every day. The following is a sample from June

#### Deadly cell phones

New York is the first U.S. state to ban the use of hand-held cell phones while driving, following the example of some European and Australasian countries. So far, Canada has not made a similar move despite growing evidence of the dangers. Dr. Donald Redelmeier was interviewed by CBC's The National about the effects of cell phone use while driving. The medical professor, who recently published a study in this area, said that drivers are four times more likely to get into a crash when they are using a cell phone. "Hands-free cellular phones were still associated with significant risks, suggesting that it's not so much just keeping your hands on the wheel as it is keeping your mind on the road," he added.

#### Top 10 men

ESQUIRE RECENTLY BILLED SCIENTIST AND U OF T PROFESSOR JOSEF Penninger, along with other big names such as actor Charles Heston and architect Frank Gehry, as among 10 illustrious figures whose lives "you would like to live." The men's magazine chronicles Penninger's early childhood on an Austrian farm to his meteoric rise in academia. Penninger, a prolific author who has published numerous research papers in prestigious science journals such as Nature and Science, is known for his pioneering work in genetics of osteoporosis, heart disease and colorectal cancer.

#### When mothers kill

IN RESPONSE TO RECENT NEWS STORIES WHERE MOTHERS HAVE murdered their children, Professor Donna Stewart was interviewed by Canada AM in July to explain this behaviour. "Sometimes women kill their children at the time of birth to conceal the fact that they were pregnant," said Stewart, a psychiatrist and senior scientist with the division of behaviourial sciences and health at the Toronto General Research Institute. "I think that later on, the most common reason women kill their children is postpartum depression." Common signs of depression are lack of interest, grief and poor sleeping habits, among other symptoms, Stewart said in the interview. She explained that children may also be murdered to retaliate against a spouse.

#### Made-to-order hearts

What if you could order up a heart on demand? Teams of researchers worldwide including Professor Michael Sefton, director of the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering at U of T, are figuring out how to build a heart muscle — complete with valves, arteries and nerve tissues. Sefton was profiled on ABC News in June along with U.S. researchers on the complex technology of building a human heart. He said the organ shortage prompted researchers to focus on doing "something better than transplants." And so the idea of "growing" a heart in a laboratory from scratch was born. He estimates the cost for creating a functional heart for preclinical testing will be \$5 billion.

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# SUSAN KINC

# FINDING HOPE IN AN OASIS OF DREAMS

A daughter of Holocaust survivors is inspired by Jewish-Palestinian friendship
By Judy Noordermeer

RACE FEUERVERGER'S VOICE BRIGHTENS AND her words quicken when she begins to tell you of her special connection to a small community in Israel called Neve Shalom/Wahat Al-Salam. "I've never felt a greater sense of peace in my soul than when I'm in that vil-

lage," says the professor at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto. Her profound experiences there sparked the publication this spring of her first book, Oasis of Dreams, which recounts the many months over nine years she spent living and working in the community. Indeed, the book is both a scholarly and personal treatise for the teacher and researcher.

Set on a rocky hill about 30 kilometres west of Jerusalem, Neve Shalom/Wahat Al-Salam (Hebrew and Arabic for oasis of dreams) is a unique village where Jews and Palestinians have been living, working and going to school together peacefully for more than 20 years. Forty families live as neighbors and hundreds of children from both inside and outside the community sit side by side in classrooms and play together in the schoolyards. From the time of her first visit in 1991, Feuerverger says the village has symbolized hope for her - her hope in the power of education to change people's lives and her hope as the Montreal-born daughter of Polish Holocaust survivors that peace can be found in a troubled land. "I have always had to find hope in my life," she says. "That wasn't something that came easily to me growing up."

Childhood was a time of despair for Feuerverger; her parents suffered nightmares from their wartime

traumas. All the members of her extended family, with the exception of one aunt, had perished in the ghettos or the camps. "I had the sense of being on the outside looking into homes where there was plenty — not just food, but family," she says. Other languages and cultures became a refuge because "they represented life to me," she says. "My own culture seemed full of suffering, pain and death."

Feuerverger excelled at French and Latin in high school and went on to study language and literature at McGill University. After working for a few years as an immersion teacher, she entered OISE/UT to do a master's degree and a

PhD in applied linguistics. She became a professor at the institute's Centre for Teacher Development in 1991.

Strengthening multicultural education has been a key focus for Feuerverger during her decade as a professor. Her courses for in-service (practicing) teachers are aimed at helping them



better understand the needs of students from different cultural and language backgrounds, like she once was. A popular course she teaches on how to blend multicultural children's literature into the curriculum always has a waiting list. "It's a course that allows the teacher to say, Your culture counts and we're going to include it," she says.

As in teaching, Feuerverger's roots have never been far from the surface in her research endeavours. Thinking about the state of Israel as a child, she says she "envied the idea of being Jewish in a majority culture." Yet as an adult, she recognized the challenges of peace and wanted to examine the sit-

uation from her perspective as an educator. She was awarded a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council during her first year at OISE/UT to undertake the first-ever study of the school system in Neve Shalom/Wahat Al-Salam.

Ironically it was a Jewish-born Catholic priest, Father Bruno Hussar, who founded the community as an experiment in Jewish-Palestinian co-operation in 1972. The first families took up residence in 1978, explains Feuerverger. She only heard about the village in a casual conversation at a party in Toronto. A few months later, when she was appointed to OISE/UT, the "first thing" she did was to apply for a SSHRC grant to visit.

Feuerverger made numerous visits to the village during the 1990s. In the elementary school she saw Jewish and Palestinian children studying alongside each other with Palestinian and Jewish teachers in each class. Both perspectives were shared in literature, current events and, indeed, all topics, she says. Parents interacted readily with each other. She also witnessed intensive three-day School for Peace conflict resolution workshops that brought together Palestinian and Jewish youths from around the region to vent fears and frustrations about each other, to listen, and usually, to come to a deeper understanding. The workshops "opened up a space between the two groups that was never there before," says Feuerverger.

Her experience with the "oasis of dreams" village has led to a profound optimism. "I'm not putting these people up on pedestals," she says. "I think I'm being very realistic in terms of understanding that

peace is not happening yet in the Middle East or in other parts of the world where there is conflict. But I feel that what is happening there makes it possible.

"Peace is still a dream in a sense, but in that village, it's a reality," she says. "In spite of the terrible time," she says referring to recent violence and tensions between Palestinians and Jews, the villagers are "hanging in."

With the passion of an experienced teacher, Feuerverger adds, "this research has only strengthened my belief that education has such tremendous force, such tremendous possibility if we have faith in it and give it the resources it deserves."

# ON WITH THE SHOW, ON WITH THE LECTURE

Students benefit from a professor's lessons from a life on the boards

BY MICHAH RYNOR

RACKING JOKES AND TALKING ABOUT BOX OFFICE STATS, Kevin Leonard sounds more like a theatre impresario than a health administration professor.

But as this author of five plays sees it, teaching and showbiz have something in common — both disciplines include audiences that have to be kept engaged and awake in their seats.

Leonard, 44, has seen his work performed at venues as diverse as Hart House and the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. During the recent Toronto Fringe Festival, his latest play, Coaching Matters (a behind-the-scenes comic look at life in a coach's office during the National Hockey League playoffs), was received enthusiastically during its seven-performance run at The Factory Theatre — although one local newspaper wrongly identified him as Kevin Howard.

"Since we received one luke-warm review in the press, my cast and I decided to lay the blame on Mr. Howard for that particular performance," he says with a laugh.

A stand-up comic since the late 1970s and employed by the university since 1996, Leonard began writing as a way of putting his own health problems into focus for himself and others.

"I've had Crohn's disease [a serious and painful inflammation of the intestines] since I was 12 so I've spent a lot of time in hospital wards. Describing my experiences [including numerous operations on his abdomen] from a humourous perspective in my first play, Extensive Care, helped me survive."

Explaining his constant need to write, Leonard says this



lifetime of "being health challenged" is his creative motivating force.

"I was afraid that my sickness would one day catch up with me and I wouldn't have the freedom or the strength to achieve what I wanted to do. Some people die from Crohn's disease and I wasn't sure what the future held for me."

In fact, all of Leonard's plays have an autobiographical slant to them including *Living Room*, which won third place at the playwriting competition at Hart House. The play deals with the tensions between a man and a woman in a

relationship. When asked how his wife deals with this public intrusion into their private lives, Leonard admits that he doesn't always get a "thumbs up" from her — but she never tries to censor him.

Coaching Matters was inspired by his one-year contract with the Vancouver Canucks hockey team to study the players' performances from a statistical viewpoint — one of the few such studies ever attempted on the sport.

When the play opened, Leonard's former boss with the Canucks raved that the play was "completely and unabashedly realistic" in its portrayal of the often surrealistic world of professional hockey. "He came expecting a caricature of the sport but he congratulated me for capturing exactly what happens during the playoffs."

Leonard admits that he is sometimes viewed with suspicion by fellow academics who have trouble accepting a professor involved with such off-campus projects: "They don't come right out and say they think less of you because you work in showbiz but you do sense it a bit at times."

But he firmly believes that it's this innate theatrical flair and timing that works well either on stage in the spotlight or in the lecture hall behind a podium.

"The two areas I teach — statistics and information systems — can be very dry," he says, "especially the mathematical aspects. But if you make it humorous and less daunting the students will not only learn more; they also won't fall asleep."

Which, at the end of the day, is all that any thespian — or professor — need ask of an audience.

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# Lawnmower Man



Michael Finlayson, who stepped down as vice-president (administration and human resources) June 29, got the chance to fulfil a long-held ambition — to operate a tractor lawnmower on front campus. The surprise was organized by staff on his last day as VP.

# New VP Business Appointed

~ Continued From Page 1 ~ vice-president (policy development) and associate provost effective immediately. In her new role, Tuohy reports to the president and to the provost, having responsibility for the development of academic policies both internal and external to the university.

Birgeneau also announced the one-vear extension of Professor Heather Munroe-Blum's appointment as vice-president (research and international relations) to June 30, 2003. She has served in that capacity since 1994. The president cited Munroe-Blum's "outstanding performance on issues of critical importance to the university" and the need for continuity in the Canada Research Chairs program and Government Research Infrastructure programs in his decision to extend her term.

A change to Jon Dellandrea's title was also approved. Formerly vice-president and chief development officer, he will now be vicepresident and chief advancement officer. The change, Birgeneau explained, . more - accurately reflects the scope of Dellandrea's responsibilities.

Seven years ago Dellandrea was first appointed, the term "development" was used because it reflected the university's desire to significantly increase its development programs in anticipation of the launch of the campaign. Today the role is much more integrated, Dellandrea said in an interview, including public affairs, alumni affairs and development.

Earlier this spring, former Woodsworth College principal Professor Angela Hildyard was promoted to vice-president (human resources). Professor Michael Finlayson, who held the previously combined portfolio of human resources and administration, stepped down at the end of June to return to his academic appointment.

# Mixed Reaction to Games

~ Continued From Page 1 ~ good bid with few mistakes but the decision wasn't easy for many IOC members. "I know that there are people who are infuriated that the bid has gone to a country with such disregard for human rights and I know people who voted for Beijing and were conflicted by the decision, but it creates an opening for a spirit of liberalism through sport and culture — which has always been the ambition of the Olympic movement."

Toronto's bid was widely recognized as a strong technical bid that, for the first time, brought former Olympic athletes into the decision and planning process, an innovation Kidd sees as having lasting ect "There will never be another Olympic bid without athletes. It was clearly a new approach, which challenged some of the conservatives. But it spoke to the progressive |

majority and it will be copied."

Including the athletes might have been new, but the Toronto bid was also guilty of some of the same transgressions of previous approaches, said U of T sociology professor Helen Lenskyj who has studied the games and their legacies for the past 20 years.

The bid, she argued, ignored thousands of Torontonians at the fringes of society. "When I heard the announcement, I felt an enormous sense of relief. Relief on behalf of member groups working and advocating for low-income earners, immigrants and those people whose lives are already difficult." As an active member of the anti-bid Bread Not Circuses steering committee, Lenskyj advocated that the time and money spent on the bid would be better used addressing the issues of homelessness and poverty in the mega-city.

In her opinion, Toronto in its loss of the Games was fortunate to avoid the pitfalls experienced by many other host cities - such as soaring rental rates and ecological problems. Supporters countered that the Toronto bid was concerned with the social justice issues raised by Lenskyj and others. A particular source of pride for Toronto organizers was the planned legacy of the Games. Largely the brainchild of Kidd, the Games' planners would have insured that Olympic facilities would remain in place for housing and recreation, to the greater enrichment of the entire GTA.

Included in this legacy was the University of Toronto. While never a proposed site for a sporting venue, Kidd believes the university would have contributed research, teaching, training facilities and special events.

# Report Calls for Increased Funds

~ Continued From Page 1 ~ and Western Canada - out in the cold, exacerbating "the existing disparity in research capacity across the country."

But Munroe-Blum argued that spreading research funding evenly | "but rather as vehicles for building

across the country, while politically appealing, is an unrealistic strategy for building Canada's capacity for innovation.

"CFI and CRC were not created as equalization programs," she said,

excellence and capacity in proven areas of strength." She noted that other policy instruments with significant federal investment are being used to build capacity in the Atlantic provinces and in the

# LEARNING THE ALFORABIT



#### Kids do what you say, literally

The next time your four-year-old throws her glass of milk on the floor, it may not be her fault - but the mixed message you gave her. A University of Toronto at Mississauga researcher has found that children listen to what is said - not how it is said - to determine a person's feelings.

Children seem to have particular difficulty when the tone of voice and the message content contradict each other, for example, a negative tone of voice with a positive message, Professor Sandra Trehub of psychology at UTM and lead author of the study, noted. For instance, if a parent makes a sarcastic remark like "way to go" when a child misbehaves, the child may interpret the message as positive ... and misbehave again.

Trehub and Bruce Morton, a | graduate student from the University of Denver, studied the responses of 165 young people to various recorded messages containing happy and sad messages. The subjects, who ranged in age from four to 22, were then asked to determine the speaker's feelings. Sometimes the speaker's tone of voice would be consistent with the message (in other words, happy voice, positive message); at other times, the two would be

Trehub found all adults judged the speaker's feelings by tone of voice rather than content of message. However, children from ages four to 10 almost always used the words themselves, not tone of voice, to judge the emotion of the speaker. There was no difference between boys or girls in the study. "Children seem to take things at face value and are literalists," Trehub said. "When adults talk to other adults, they're not only monitoring the content of the conversation but also thinking about how this person is feeling."

The study, published in the May/June issue of Child Development, was funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada.

Scientist targets solvents contaminating groundwater

A U of T researcher is hopeful that a new class of bacteria will help clean up a decades-old environmental hazard that contaminates groundwater.

Professor Elizabeth Edwards of chemical engineering and applied science is researching a unique new type of bacterium - Dehalococcoides ethenogenes - that can break down toxic and potentially carcinogenic chlorinated solvents like dry-cleaning and degreasing agents. These solvents, commonly dumped into the ground or landfills years ago, are among the most prevalent groundvater contaminants in the world.

"The problem is that there is currently no effective method to fully clean sites contaminated by chlorinated solvents," she noted. "These solvents are extremely difficult to remove from groundwater and the only method we now have, the "pumpand-treat" technique, takes 50 to 100 years or more."

D. ethenogenes and other related bacteria, however, are able to break down chlorinated solvents into ethene, a non-toxic product that is consumed by other organisms, and this can be done in much less time and at a much lower cost than the current treatment. In a series of sequential steps where chlorine atoms are removed one at a time until only ethene is left, these bacteria "breathe" the chlorinated solvents in the same way that humans use oxygen. .

Working with GeoSyntec Consultants, an environmental consulting firm in Guelph, Ont., Edwards tested her bacterial culture at two sites in Texas and in California, both with success. Her research was presented at the International Symposium on In Situ and On-Site Bioremediation in early June.

JANE STIRLING

#### Researching marriage of language and electricity

U of T researchers at the McLuhan Program in Culture and Technology are helping to establish a leading international centre in Italy that will study the relationship between media and language from humankind's earliest writing systems to the Internet and beyond.

The Alforabit Project, named for an expression invented by author James Joyce, will study the combination of two major powers: electricity and language. "Joyce loved to talk about the media," said Professor Derrick de Kerckhove of the

McLuhan program. "Alforabit appears in his novel Finnigan's Wake and it's a pun on the alphabet. We picked the name because this word symbolizes the beginning of a major world culture to our present and future."

Society needs this kind of centre, de Kerckhove added. "All literate societies, whether they revere or ignore the written word, seem to take its profound effects on mind and culture for granted. No other institution studies the comparative literacies of the world. For example, what is the impact of Chinese ideograms or Hebrew scripts on cognition? At Alforabit, we will be showing how other cultures work when it comes to the impact of media on language and mind. For example, the biggest mythical wedding of Western history is not that of Jupiter and Juno - it is that of language and electricity and our most powerful media are the children of this momentous wedding."

To be located in Torino, Italy, the centre will receive funding from the local and various other levels of the Italian government and will be instrumental in supporting the Italian education system online.

MICHAH RYNOR

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#### The Bulletin

invites readers to submit nformation regarding awards and honours as well as death notices of staff and faculty. Please include as much background information as possible and in the case of obituaries, a CV is especially welcome.



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#### LETTERS



#### HEALY'S STUDY "ODD"

I have been fascinated with the fuss at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and the University of Toronto over David Healy's candidacy for a position and I have avidly followed its unfolding, using the Web version of The Globe and Mail. I was alerted to the controversy a few months ago when Anne McIlroy of The Globe and Mail contacted me out of the blue and asked me to review an article by Dr. Healy. Ms. McIlroy was unhappy with my conclusions. After insinuating that my research must be supported by drug companies (which it is not), she chose not to use the review or her interview with me. But it did not matter, I was hooked.

The paper Dr. Healy wrote that received so much attention was published in a journal that is not among the hundreds indexed in Medline. This usually suggests a journal does not meet a minimal standard of quality. The "study" was quite odd and it is understandable why it was not published in a better journal. It involved Dr. Healy giving antidepressants to 20 persons who were not depressed and who worked at a hospital where he has an administrative role. For reasons of both ethics and potential bias, one typically does not conduct research on colleagues and particularly not subordinates. Furthermore, if one is truly interested in distinguishing the effects of different medications, as he claims he was, it is imperative to have many more than 20 research participants.

Dr. Healy claims he found that two out of the 20 persons taking an antidepressant became suicidal. The most recent statistics indicate that 11 per cent of Ontario's elderly received an antidepressant in a one-year period. This is higher than the general rate of depression (between 1.5 and four per cent) and undoubtedly, many of these elderly were not depressed. If Dr. Healy is to be believed, they should be jumping out nursing home windows in droves.

It is standard practice to provide a proportion of research participants a placebo and not allow either the participants or the researchers to know who is getting a medication and who is getting a placebo. This provides a check on the influence of either the investigator or participants' expectations on what is found. Dr. Healy did not include this safeguard. He had already made quite a reputation with his claims about the alleged dangers of antidepressants and quite a lot of money for appearances to make this point as an expert witness in lawsuits. Dr.

Healy's associates taking part in the study were undoubtedly aware of his expectations and it may have influenced their reports when they were debriefed by him.

As a paid expert witness, Dr. Healy had a financial interest in the outcome of this "study" and he had a responsibility to inform readers of his article of this. There was no such disclosure, and in many institutions, such an apparent conflict of interest would have resulted in disciplinary proceedings. For me, one of the most troubling aspects of the Healy controversy is that no one has raised this issue.

JAMES COYNE
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
HEALTH SYSTEM

## ARTICLE MISLEADS READERS

Professor Paul Links of psychiatry explains in a commentary piece in The Bulletin that clinical depression often leads to suicidal thoughts and behaviours and that Prozac and other selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitors (SSRIs) often "prevent suicides by alleviating depression" (In Defence of Prozac, June 25). He makes these assertions in the context of the debate over the sudden withdrawal of an offer to Dr. David Healy to an appointment at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and the university. He strongly implies that Dr. Healy denies one or both of these assertions and that this difference of opinion was the basis for Dr. Healy's being found unsuitable for our faculty.

I was present at Dr. Healy's two-hour seminar talk at the Joint Centre for Bioethics on April 19. The seminar was very well attended and I had the impression that most of those present were professionals in the field of biothethics and/or clinical psychology (certainly Dr. Healy spoke on that assumption). Far from denying or bypassing the assertions Professor Links stresses, Dr. Healy asserted them, clearly and unambiguously. Professor Links must know, either from Dr. Healy's lectures or from his publications, that they have no difference of opinion on the benefits of SSRIs.

The point is the minority of patients showing serious side effects to SSRIs. There, Professor Links concedes that "Prozac has documented side effects including agitation and restlessness." But also Dr. Healy gave extensive evidence that the side effects fairly often include suicidality. He advocated research to identify the minority of patients for whom SSRIs are strongly contra-indicated; he

outlined specific proposals; he expressed fears that the present structure of support of medical research will make it difficult to find funding for this program, which would seem quite urgent in the public interest.

By not adequately acknowledging a main aspect of Dr. Healy's position, Professor Links seriously misleads the uninformed reader. Similarly, another professor of psychiatry on page 9 of the same issue of The Bulletin falls into line supporting the administration (Healy not appropriate candidate, June 25). And we read on page 3 of the administration's appreciation that nobody in the department has urged a formal investigation of the strange reversal of the offer to Dr. Healy (CAMH Stands Firm on Healy).

Well, no. Defenders of academic freedom often find that members of the unit that need investigating are not the ones who speak up to demand the investigation.

Understandable.

CHANDLER DAVIS
MATHEMATICS

## OTHERS ERRED, ONLY STUDENTS PUNISHED

The dean of the Faculty of Law's letter of May 10, 2001 addressed to "Dear Alumni and Friends" announced that 25 first-year students in the faculty's three-year program had misrepresented their marks to prospective employers. Seventeen of these students received an immediate one-year suspension with, in addition, a notation about the offence placed on each student's academic record and transcript that would remain until three months after graduation.

Professor John Furedy's letter in The Bulletin commented on the university's suspension of its committee looking into what may have influenced these law students to misrepresent their grades (Suspension of fact-finding committee disturbing, June 11). He stated that "whereas the university was prompt to punish the offending students (some think perhaps too severely), it is stalling with respect to the issue of the academic conduct of its faculty."

Information provided by the faculty on the collective nature of the student infractions, which may be unique in the history of the university, and on the involvement or non-involvement of the law faculty or law firms, is scanty. On probing further, a tangled web of confusion emerges.

• It has been traditional to tell first-year law students that their first exams would be practice exams and that the letter-grade given would be used only for internal teaching purposes. But after last December's practice exams were over, the faculty informed the students that some law firms would insist that the practice grades given accompany each application for summer employment.

• The students rightly objected to the release of their practice grades. The faculty could have supported its students by formally asking the law firms not to require these unofficial and confidential marks, or by instructing the students not to release the marks, but apparently did neither.

• A Globe and Mail opinion piece by the students' lawyer quotes what he had told the dean at the beginning of the student sanctioning process: "There is intense pressure from the Bay Street law firms. Many students didn't want to, or didn't at first give grades. The law school wrongly permitted these large firms to exert pressure on the first-year students."

The students had become entangled in a struggle to respect the confidentiality of their unofficial marks. Clearly, some law firms erred by exerting pressure on the students to provide these marks. The faculty erred by neither dissuading the firms from requiring, nor prohibiting the students from submitting, the confidential grades. Some law students erred by misrepresenting their marks to the law firms. But only the students have been punished.

I speak out for these students, even though I know none of them. The university must opt for positive rather than negative ways to sanction its errant students. In this case, the faculty could assign a major essay on an ethical topic or require a period of community service. Teaching, learning and justice must reign supreme over punishment.

PAUL AIRD
FACULTY OF FORESTRY

# TEACHING STREAM EXCLUDED FROM DIRECTOR POSITION

The U of T Faculty Association welcomes the recent announcement of the long-awaited Centre for the Support of Teaching. We look forward to working with the new centre to help faculty members reach the highest possible standards in teaching. The centre will also provide a valuable forum for thoughtful discussion of the issues raised by our diverse student body and multiple institutional goals.

The faculty association agrees

that the director's position should be taken by a senior and distinguished faculty member. However, we are disappointed that the advertisement in the June 25 issue of The Bulletin for the position of director of the centre restricts applications and nominations to tenured faculty members or professors emeriti, excluding all members of the teaching stream. Lecturers and senior lecturers are focused on teaching and immersed in the scholarship of teaching. A number have won national and local teaching awards and are recognized experts, leaders and mentors in university teaching. UTFA hopes that the exclusion of these faculty from the lead position will be reconsidered.

We are also concerned that this is the only position so far defined and funded. No single individual, however eminent a teacher, can possibly perform all the tasks needed to support teaching at this university — not just offering workshops and providing individual counselling but also gathering print and online resources and conducting practical research to guide local decisions. We need a more than a figurehead.

The university must move quickly to establish the learning and teaching network envisaged by the design team for this project. Faculty members who are experts in the study as well as the practice of teaching, and who are rooted in university programs and culture, should be seconded and crossappointed to perform the detailed and intensive work needed to make the support and enhancement of teaching a reality. This group will also bring knowledge of the full range of issues in teaching and learning - including the fact that the university depends for most of its teaching on contract faculty members and teaching assistants, groups almost totally neglected in the current plans.

MARGARET PROCTER
CHAIR, APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE
AND TEACHING STREAM
COMMITTEE, UTFA

RHONDA LOVE,
PRESIDENT, UTFA

#### LETTERS DEADLINES

AUGUST 10 FOR AUGUST 20
AUGUST 31 FOR SEPTEMBER 10
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### EVENTS



#### Miscellany

Fathers' Group. FRIDAY, AUGUST 3

Meet other fathers at U of T to talk, discuss issues, find out about resources and share insights. Noon. Registration and information: 978-0951, family.care@

#### Maternity Leave Planning.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21

Workshop adopts a practical approach to preparing faculty, staff and librarians for maternity leave and a successful return to work. Koffler Student Services Centre. Noon to 2:30 p.m. Information and registration: 978-0951, family.care@

#### Carillon Recital Series.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26 Suzanne Magassy, national carillonneur, Canberra, Australia. Soldiers' Tower. 3 p.m. Historical Walking Tours.

To AUGUST 31

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#### PLAYS & READINGS

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#### Seminars

Mechanisms of Signal Transduction via Receptors for TGF-beta.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8 Dr. Carl-Henrik Heldin, UPPSALA, Sweden. 968 Mt. Sinai Hospital. Noon. Samuel Lunenfeld Research Institute



#### Exhibitions

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#### DEADLINES

Please note that information for Events listings must be received in writing at The Bulletin offices, 21 King's College Circle, by the following times:

Issue of August 20, for events taking place Aug. 20 to Sept. 10: MONDAY, AUGUST 6.

Issue of September 10, for events taking place Sept. 10 to 24: MONDAY, AUGUST 27.

For information regarding the Events section, please contact Ailsa Ferguson at 416-978-6981; e-mail, ailsa.ferguson@ utoronto.ca

Dr. Jaro Sodek of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Group in Periodontal Physiology in the Faculty of Dentistry has been selected as this year's recipient of the International Association for Dental Research Basic Research in Biological Mineralization Award supported by Unilever Dental Research.





This international award was presented at the Opening Ceremonies of the 79th IADR General Session in Chiba, Japan on June 27th.

This is the second IADR award that Dr. Sodek has received. In 1989 he received the Basic Research in Periodontal Disease Award.

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## THE BULLETIN

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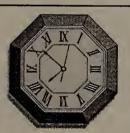


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Sabbatical rental, 8ayview Village area: late August 2001 to June 30, 2002. Lovely Toronto home, furnished 4-bedroom, 2 1/2 bathrooms, 2-car garage. Private garden and patio. Quiet, residential street. Large living room and dining room, spacious family room, eat-in kitchen. Close to Yonge subway (15minute bus ride). Close to excellent schools, parks, shops. Convenient to York and U of T. No smoking/pets. \$2,500/month + utilities. Contact bayefsky@yorku.ca or call 416-890-2272/416-730-1963

Sabbatical rental — Annex (Davenport & Albany Avenue). September 2001 ---July 2002 (dates negotiable). Seautiful Condo townhouse, 3 bedrooms or 2 bedrooms and study. Furnished, hardwood floors, garden, air-conditioned, indoor parking. 10 minutes to U of T. \$1,800/month, utilities extra. E-mail jugergrayson@aol.com or 905-673-5064.

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Annex sublet. Late August to June. Charming 2-bedroom furnished apartment on quiet street. Main floor. Close to U of T, shopping, TTC. Fully furnished with cable TV, stereo, access to washer/dryer, parking. \$2,000. Utilities included. Contact 416-966-2453 or franny@interlog.com

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Avenue Road and Lawrence. 1-bedroom plus den in a clean, quiet, small building. Hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen with walk-in pantry. Steps to TTC and shopping. Suite single professional, non-smoker. No parking. Available September 1. \$800/month. 416-757-7633. E-mail address: minicoop@

Bloor/Huntley: Sublet (August and/or September). 1-bedroom. Great view. Furnished. 2 balconies. Free Internet. Clean quiet highrise. \$1,400 negotiable. 416-964-0415 or prismwebplus@hotmail.com

Annex. 8eautiful, furnished, spacious onebedroom; very clean, quiet, sunny. Walmer Road near 8loor/Spadina subway. Available September 2001 through May 2002, 9-month lease required. Renewable yearly for same period. \$900/month. Responsible mature person. 416-964-1858. Call beginning August 2.

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Annex — 15 minutes walk to U of T. 8asement three-room apartment. Clean kitchen, bathroom. Separate entrance. For clean, quiet, mature non-smokers. No pets. Close to downtown, shops, TTC. Available September 1, 2001 for one year. \$1,100/month. References. 416-921-6176.

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#### ACCOMMODATION **OUT OF TOWN**

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#### ACCOMMODATION RENTALS REQUIRED

Accomodation for family of S coming to working at Sick Kids. Ideally near Annex/Little Italy, decent schools and access to garden. Would consider house swap (see Accommodation Overseas). Contact david@emerydj2g.fsnet.co.uk

Visiting professor seeks to rent apartment September 2001 to end of June 2002. Swapping for a comfortable furnished apartment in Antwerp, 8elgium, is possible (one bedroom, living, study). I'm looking for a furnished one- bedroom apartment with living and/or study in a quiet street, preferably close to public transportation. E-mail: scheper @pophost.eunet.be or tel: +32-3-2722913.

#### ACCOMMODATION SHARED

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Eglinton/Mt.Pleasant. Seeking young female professional roommate to share new 2bedroom condo with one other plus cat. Private bathroom. Ensuite laundry, dishwasher. Jacuzzi, gym. \$800/month includes parking + utilities. Tel: 416-616-0941.

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Full range of psychological services offered by Dr. K.P. Simmons. Call 416-920-5303 if troubled by trauma, anxiety, depression, phobia or relationship issues. Location: 170 St. George Street, Suite 409 — Medical Arts 8uilding.

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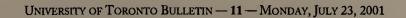
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# NO MORE ON THE SIDELINES

Projected reality games allow disabled children to play the sports they only watched before By MEGAN EASTON





Occupational therapy professor Denise Reid (left) encourages a disabled child as a video camera records him and a student assistant (right) "playing" beach volleyball. These images and actions are inserted in the beach scene (below).

THERE IS A SMALL, ORDINARY LOOKING LAB IN THE occupational therapy building on McCaul Street where children with disabilities experience real-life magic. Inside the lab, they can do things that are impossible everywhere else - things like playing volleyball on the beach, tending goal in a soccer game or snowboarding down

A sophisticated computer, a camera, a large screen and some virtual reality software create this fantasy for the children, and while it feels like playing to them they are actually part of a study led by Professor Denise Reid. Her research falls into a specialized field called assistive technology, where she designs devices to help children with disabilities live better, fuller lives. In the past 20 years she has done numerous studies on wheeled mobility and, among other things, helped design a seating device to replace lap belts in wheelchairs. She says the virtual reality study is a natural extension of this work — only the technology is new.

"It's called an immersive technology because you are part of the virtual environment," she says. The games create a "projected reality," allowing the children to see themselves in a virtual scene where their movements interact with objects in that landscape. "When you move freely in space you are literally engaging with the objects in the virtual world so you can envision you are in a soccer field, in the goal, and there are balls coming

at you and you need to block the balls." The technology is primarily used for entertainment purposes and Reid is one of only a handful of researchers in the world using virtual reality in this unique therapeutic application.

When she first heard about the technology she says she could almost immediately see its potential in occupational therapy. "There are so many possibilities. This study is just the tip of the iceberg - there are other groups of children and other disability groupings that would benefit from this. I can see it already, but it's just a matter of having the time and the money to be able to mount the projects."

As a starting point she designed a two-year study, funded by Kids Action Research, aimed at evaluating the rehabilitative value of the virtual reality games as an adjunct to conventional



physical and occupational therapy. The subjects are boys and girls aged eight to 12 who have cerebral palsy, many of whom are in wheelchairs, and Reid is looking at two outcomes. The first is whether playing the games, which involve activities such as reaching, stretching and hitting, improves the quality of the children's upper body movements. But she is interested in more than the children's physical responses.

makes a difference in terms of these kids' self-efficacy — how well they think they are playing and how good it makes them feel about themselves to play sports they never believed they would be able to play because of their disabilities," she says.

With the pilot year of the study just ending, Reid says the preliminary results are promising. "We've found some

remarkable changes in how children perceive themselves in terms of their abilities, and that's what we wanted." The experience of playing sports that they could previously only watch from the sidelines has been exhilarating for the children, says Reid. Post-game interviews often elicit the same enthusiastic responses. "A very prevalent theme, besides them saying, It's fun, It's cool, It's exciting, is, It allows me to do things that I wouldn't be able to do naturally. And that is exactly it in a nutshell." The interviews have also confirmed that kids, whatever disabilities they might have, are still kids - their favourite games are often the ones involving competition.

Although the study is still in progress, Reid is already looking for funding to investigate virtual reality rehabilitation in stroke patients, people with very different experiences and challenges than her current subjects. She is optimistic about future prospects for this evolving technology in the therapy field, especially since software developers are working on new features that will heighten the authenticity of the virtual experience.

Soon, she says, children may be able to smell the ocean and feel the heat of the sun when they are playing virtual beach volleyball. But for now, she says, the technology is realistic enough to allow most kids to believe the magic they see on the screen.

As one boy said after finishing a rousing game, "Well, maybe I didn't get sand in my pants, but it was the real thing "The primary outcome for me is whether the activity to me." And in the end, Reid says, that's all that matters.

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